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MESSAGE

In connection with Serial No. 09/406,570, a draft set of proposed claim amendments (independent claims 1, 8, 13 and 18).

SHIMIZU et al., S.N. 09/406,570 Dkt. 2271/57219-A
Proposed Claim Amendments -- **DRAFT**

1. (proposed to be thrice amended) An optical information recording medium comprising information tracks extending in a circumferential direction and spaced from each other in a radial direction by lands, wherein:

a first information track and a second information track are radially adjacent but are radially spaced from each other by a single land;

a first phase pit encoding information for the first information track is connected to the second information track and extends radially therefrom toward, but does not reach, the first information track;

said first phase pit and said first information track being separated radially by a partition wall; [and]

said first phase pit and said first information track having equal depths,

wherein a track pitch of said first information track and a width and a length of said first phase pit are selected according to a condition that a differential signal is used for reproduction.

push pull

to enable push pull ?

8. (proposed to be thrice amended) An optical information recording medium comprising:

circumferentially extending grooves forming information tracks and phase pits forming circumferentially extending

preformat tracks;

a partition wall radially separating adjacent information tracks;

wherein said grooves and phase pits are equally deep, [; and]

phase pits encoding preformat information for a given information track are radially spaced from the groove forming the given information track by a partition wall, and

a track pitch of said given information track and a width and a length of said phase pits are selected according to a condition that a differential signal is used for reproduction.

13. (proposed to be twice amended) An optical information recording medium comprising:

circumferentially extending grooves forming information recording tracks, and phase pits encoding preformat information for said tracks;

wherein phase pits encoding preformat information for a given track are radially spaced from that track and separated therefrom by a partition wall and are connected to an adjacent track, [; and

wherein] said grooves and phase pits are equally deep, and

a track pitch of said given track and a width and a length of said phase pits are selected according to a condition that a differential signal is used for reproduction.

18. (proposed to be twice amended) A method of mastering an optical information recording medium comprising information tracks extending in a circumferential direction and spaced from each other in a radial direction by lands, comprising:

exposing a master to a first exposing light beam for forming a first information track and a second information track that are radially adjacent but are radially spaced from each other by a single land;

exposing said master to a second exposing light beam for forming a first phase pit encoding information for the first information track, said first phase pit being connected to the second information track and extending radially therefrom toward, but not reaching, the first information track, said first phase pit and said first information track being separated radially by a partition wall, and said first phase pit and said first information track having equal depths;

wherein, when a spot diameter of said first exposing light beam is BD1, a spot diameter of said second exposing light beam is BD2, a distance between said first and second exposing light beams is L, and the width of said partition wall in the radial direction is Δ, the values of BD1, BD2, L, and Δ satisfy the relationship:

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$\Delta = L - [(BD1/2) + (BD2/2)]$; and

wherein a track pitch of said first information track and a width and a length of said first phase pit are selected according to a condition that a differential signal is used for reproduction.